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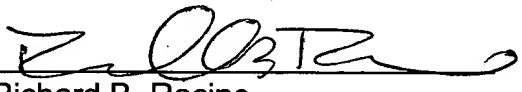
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**U.S. Patent Appln. No. 08/909,879**  
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Respectfully submitted,

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